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AUTHOR Conklin, Karen A.
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ABSTRACT

In July 1992, a follow-up study was conducted of 412 former students of Johnson County Community College (JCCC), in Kansas, who had earned a career program degree or certificate, or had been identified as leaving with marketable skills, in 1987-88. Due to obsolete addresses, and other factors, the list of potential respondents was reduced to 288. Of these, 92 returned mail surveys and 156 completed telephone surveys for an adjusted response rate of 86%. Study findings included the following: (1) 27% of the respondents had been employed in their current full-time job (which was related to their program of study) prior to enrolling at JCCC; (2) nearly 91% of the respondents working full-time in related jobs had progressed in their careers since completing their course of study; (3) the hourly wage of respondents employed full-time in related jobs was $14.00, as compared to $11.74 for those surveyed in 1990; (4) 81% of the respondents expressed satisfaction with their full-time related job, and 84% rated the working conditions, level of responsibility, and the job in general as "excellent" or "good"; (5) 29% rated their opportunities for job advancement as "fair" or "poor"; (6) nearly 94% of the respondents indicated that their experiences at JCCC had improved the quality of their lives; (7) over 70% indicated that their JCCC experience had enhanced their self-confidence and improved their decision-making; and (8) 50% of the respondents had pursued additional education since completing the JCCC career program, and only 23% indicated that they had no plans to continue their education. Detailed data tables and the survey instrument are included. (PAA)

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CAREER PROGRAM COMPLETERS 1987-88

A LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP STUDY

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Johnson County Community College
Office of Institutional Research

November 1992

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JC 920579

LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF

1987-88 CAREER PROGRAM COMPLETERS

Johnson County Community College
Office of Institutional Research
12345 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS 66210-1299

November 1992

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INTRODUCTION

History of career program completer follow-up studies

For nearly 20 years the Office of Institutional Research at Johnson County Community College has conducted short-term follow-up studies of students who completed a JCCC career program during the previous academic year, and of the employers of completers who were working in jobs related to their course of study, as a major component of the college's assessment of institutional effectiveness. Results of these studies have provided valuable insights into the effectiveness of the career programs and have assisted the college in planning to meet the individual needs of future students and the employment needs of business and industry.

The first long-term study of this type was initiated in 1989, at which time the 1985-86 career program completers were surveyed to provide insights into the career and educational experiences of former students over an extended period of time. Results of this study also provided a broader perspective on the level of job satisfaction of former students currently employed in various career fields, their opportunities for advancement, salaries, and other variables which influence the career decision making process of future JCCC students.

A second long-term follow-up study was conducted in 1990 of 1986-87 completers, after which career program administrators were surveyed to elicit their opinions on whether these data would be more valuable if collected after a longer period of time had elapsed since program completion. The results were evenly divided between preference for a 3-year or a 5-year follow-up study. Thus, the decision was made to utilize a 4-year interval. This report details results of the first 4-year follow-up study of career program completers ever conducted by the college.

Methodology

The list of 418 graduates, certificate recipients, and students identified by career program administrators as leaving with marketable skills in 1987-88 was reviewed by the alumni association and career program administrators to insure the most recent addresses and telephone numbers possible. Viable addresses and phone numbers were unavailable for six completers, leaving 412 potential respondents. Surveys were mailed on July 6, 1992 and July 27, 1992, and remaining nonrespondents were telephoned during the week of August 24, 1992. Additional information secured through telephone contact with acquaintances of completers was utilized for a third mailing conducted in September.

A total of 115 former students were eliminated due to obsolete addresses and/or telephone numbers, 8 indicated they had not completed a career program during 1987-88, and one was deceased, reducing the list of potential respondents to 288. Of those, 92 returned mail surveys and 156 completed telephone interviews, for an adjusted response rate of 86%.

Limitations of the Study

Findings are presented by career program as often as possible to enhance the usefulness of results. Caution should be exercised when generalizing these data due to the relatively small number of respondents in some programs. Findings are not necessarily representative of either the number of students enrolled in each program or the salaries of all career program completers.

A summary of the major findings of the study follows. Tables detailing results of the survey are located in Appendix A, and a list of tables is provided at the start of the appendix to facilitate location of specific data. The mail survey and cover letters are contained in Appendices B and C. Copies of program-specific verbatim comments have been provided to career program administrators, and are available to other interested parties in the Office of Institutional Research.

Comments or questions regarding this report or previous follow-up studies of career program completers may be directed to:

Karen A. Conklin, Ed.S
Market & Survey Research Analyst
Office of Institutional Research
Johnson County Community College
12345 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS 66210-1299
(913) 469-8500, ext. 3443

MAJOR FINDINGS

Utilization of career preparation

* A lesser percentage of 1992 respondents were working in jobs related to their community college career program than respondents to either the 1990 or 1989 long-term follow-up studies. This finding was somewhat anticipated in view of the current state of the economy. Approximately 79% of 1992 respondents were employed in related jobs compared to 83% in both 1990 and 1989.

* Nearly 14% of 1992 respondents were working only part-time in a related job compared to 8% of 1990 and 13% of 1989 respondents to the long-term follow-up studies.

* A substantially greater percent of 1992 respondents were employed in unrelated jobs (15%) than was true in either 1990 (8%) or 1989 (7%).

Experiences with full-time related job

* Approximately one in four respondents had been employed in their current full-time related job prior to enrolling in a JCCC career program (27%). The majority of respondents indicated their current full-time related job was not their first in that career field (58%).

* Nearly 91% of respondents working full-time in related jobs had progressed in their careers since completion of their course of study. Over 84% had received salary increases, 61% had been promoted, and 67% had enjoyed some form of professional recognition.

Hourly wage and satisfaction with full-time related job

* The average hourly wage of 1992 respondents employed full-time in a related job ($14.00) was substantially greater than the hourly wage reported in either 1990 ($11.74) or 1989 ($11.73). This finding may be at least partially attributable to the 4-year intervening period since career program completion, compared to a 3-year intervening period for respondents to the 1990 and 1989 studies.

* Eight out of ten respondents expressed satisfaction with their full-time related job (81%), and provided positive evaluations for most facets of the job. Approximately 84% rated the working conditions, level of responsibility, and the job in general as excellent or good.

* Over 63% rated the salary in their full-time related job as excellent or good, but advancement potential was rated highly by only 47% of survey respondents. Nearly one in three respondents (29%) rated their opportunities for advancement as "fair" or "poor."

Community college experiences

* JCCC was the first choice college to attend for 85% of survey respondents. Nearly 94% indicated their community college experiences had improved the quality of their life and, if starting now, 9 out of 10 would attend the community college again.

* Nearly 99% of respondents indicated they had completely or partially achieved their JCCC educational objective. Of those, fully 95% indicated the community college had helped them to achieve their objective.

* Over 80% of respondents earned mostly A's and B's while attending the community college. Respondents were enrolled in their career program an average of 4.6 semesters and earned an average of 57 credit hours at the community college. Four out of ten indicated they had used the JCCC Career Center at least once.

* Over 70% of respondents indicated their community college experiences had enhanced their self-confidence and improved their decision-making, time management, and oral communication skills.

* Over 60% of respondents indicated their community college experiences had expanded their tolerance for people and ideas, helped them to clarify their personal values and goals, broadened their knowledge of the arts and sciences, and improved their interpersonal and written communication skills.

* Over 97% of respondents would recommend JCCC to friends, and 88% would encourage their own children to attend JCCC.

Current educational endeavors and future educational plans

* One out of two respondents had participated in educational endeavors since completing their career program. Of those, 50% had attended JCCC and 55% had enrolled in classes related to their career program.

* Four out of ten respondents who had pursued additional education since completing their community college career program had earned a degree or certificate. Of those, 52% had earned a bachelor's degree.

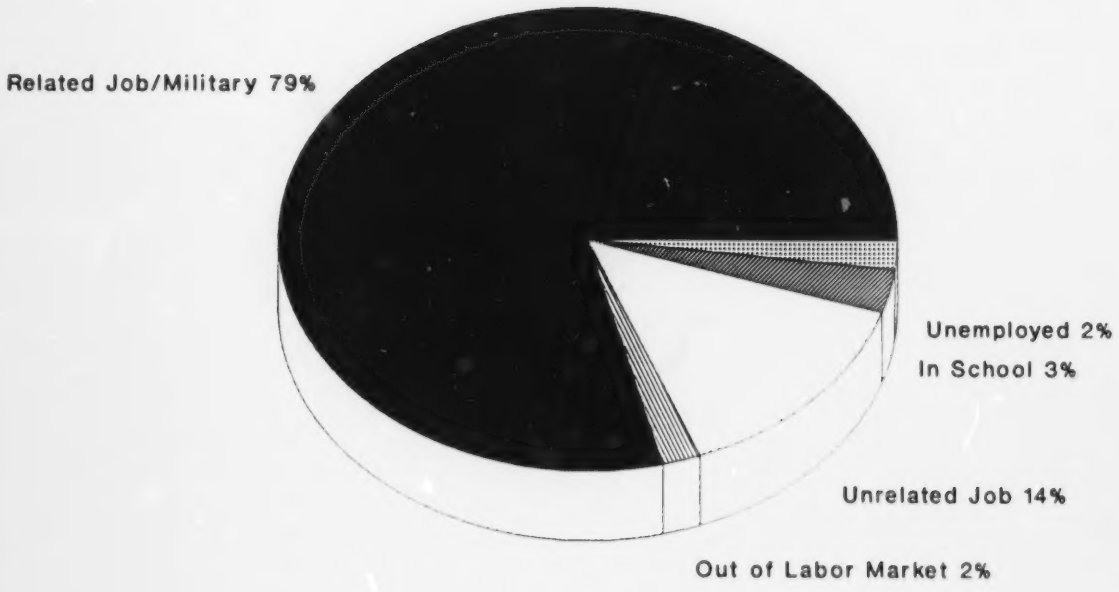
* One in four respondents were currently pursuing additional education. Of those, 29% were enrolled at JCCC. Nearly one in two planned to enroll again within the next year and, of those, 44% planned to re-enroll at JCCC. Only 23% of respondents indicated no plans to eventually continue their education.

What percentage of respondents are employed in related jobs several years after completing their community college course of study, and what are the other completers doing?

One of the primary purposes of conducting long-term follow-up studies of career program completers is to determine how, over time, they utilize the skills developed through their course of study. Figure 1 depicts the current status of respondents to this year's long-term follow-up study. Nearly 80% were working in jobs related to their course of study.

Table 2 in Appendix A details results and comparisons of findings for each of the three long-term follow-up studies of career program completers conducted by the college. Of note is the higher percentage of 1992 respondents who were working in unrelated jobs (14%) compared to results of the 1990 study (8%) and the 1989 study (7%). This finding may be at least partially attributable to the less favorable job market and the greater number of layoffs experienced in some career fields in recent years.

Figure 1
1992 Status of 1987-88
Career Program Completers

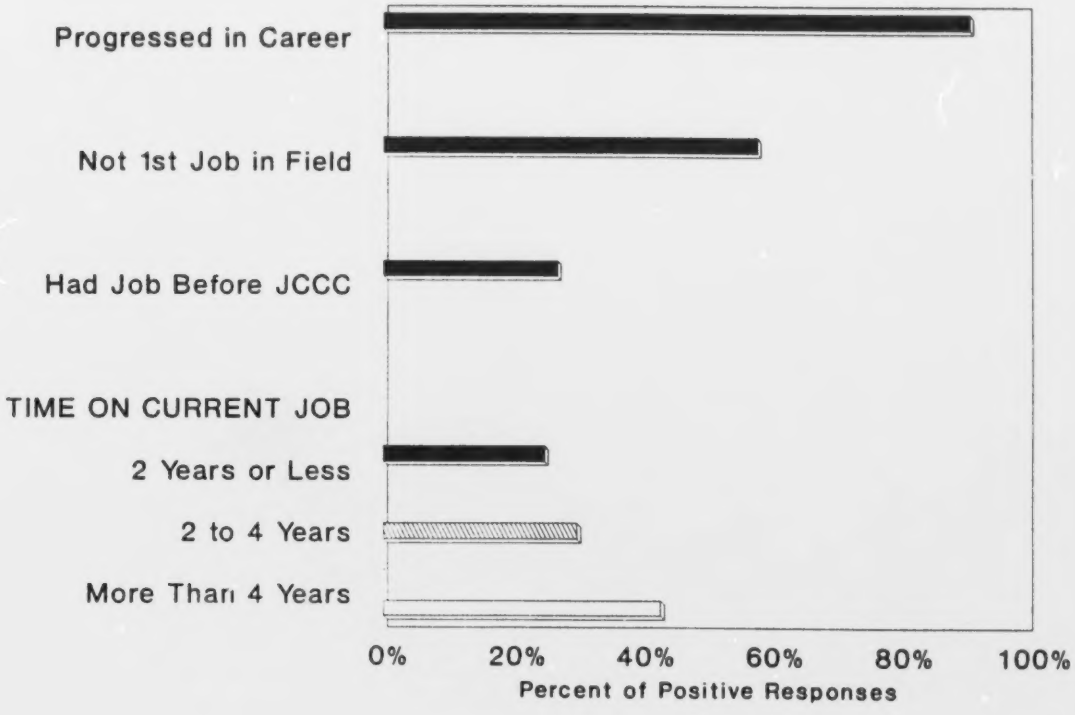


Have respondents working full time in related jobs progressed in their careers, how long have they been employed on their current job, and did they have the job prior to enrolling at JCCC?

As Figure 2 depicts, 91% of respondents who were working full-time in a related job had progressed in their career field since completing their course of study at the community college. Over 84% had enjoyed salary increases, 67% had achieved some form of professional recognition, and 61% had earned promotions. These findings are particularly meaningful in view of the fact that 25% of respondents had been employed in their current full-time related job 2 years or less.

The majority of respondents indicated this was not their first job in their career field, and 27% had been employed in their current job prior to enrolling at JCCC. See Tables 5 to 7 in Appendix A for detailed results of findings.

Figure 2
Experiences With Full-Time Related Job



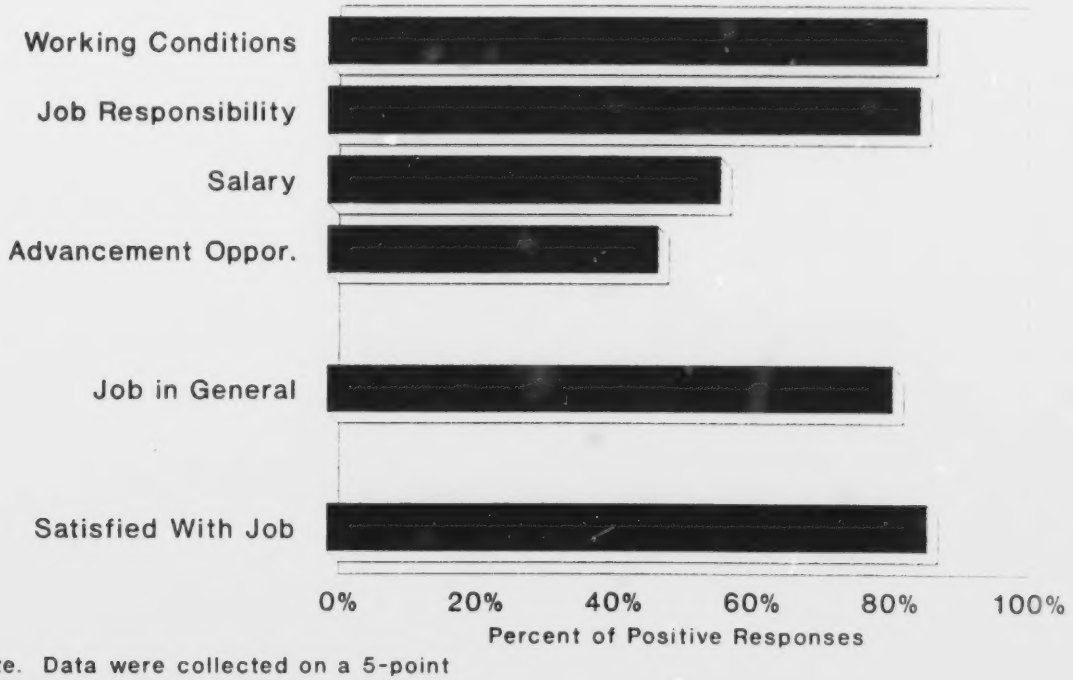
EVALUATION OF FULL-TIME RELATED JOB

How would respondents rate various aspects of their full-time related job, and how satisfied are they with their employment situation?

An important objective of the long-term follow-up study of career program completers is to ascertain respondent perceptions of their current full-time related job. Thus, respondents were asked to rate their job relative to working conditions, level of responsibility, advancement potential, salary, and the job in general.

As Figure 3 depicts, respondents viewed their job in a positive manner, especially the working conditions and level of job responsibility. The vast majority also expressed satisfaction with the job in general. See Tables 9 and 10 in Appendix A for detailed results of findings.

Figure 3
Evaluation of Full-Time Related Job



Note. Data were collected on a 5-point scale, and the 2 most positive responses have been combined.

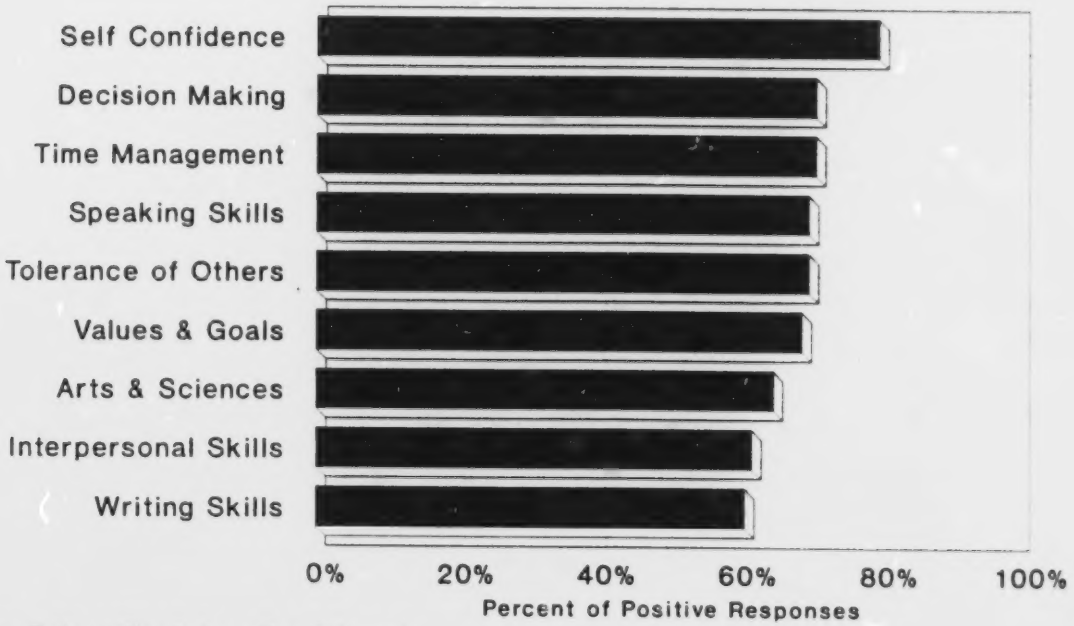
CHARACTERISTICS THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE HELPED TO IMPROVE

In what specific areas do career program completers perceive themselves as having benefited from their community college experiences?

Respondents were asked to indicate how much they agreed that the community college had helped them to accomplish a variety of "typical" goals students have for their college experiences. As Figure 4 depicts, the majority of respondents reported improvements in a variety of cognitive and noncognitive behaviors.

The greatest percentage of respondents indicated improvement in their self-confidence (80%). Approximately 70% also reported improvement in decision-making skills, time management skills, oral communication skills, tolerance for people and ideas, and the ability to clarify their personal values and goals. See Table 11 in Appendix A for detailed results of findings.

Figure 4
Characteristics the Community College Helped to Improve



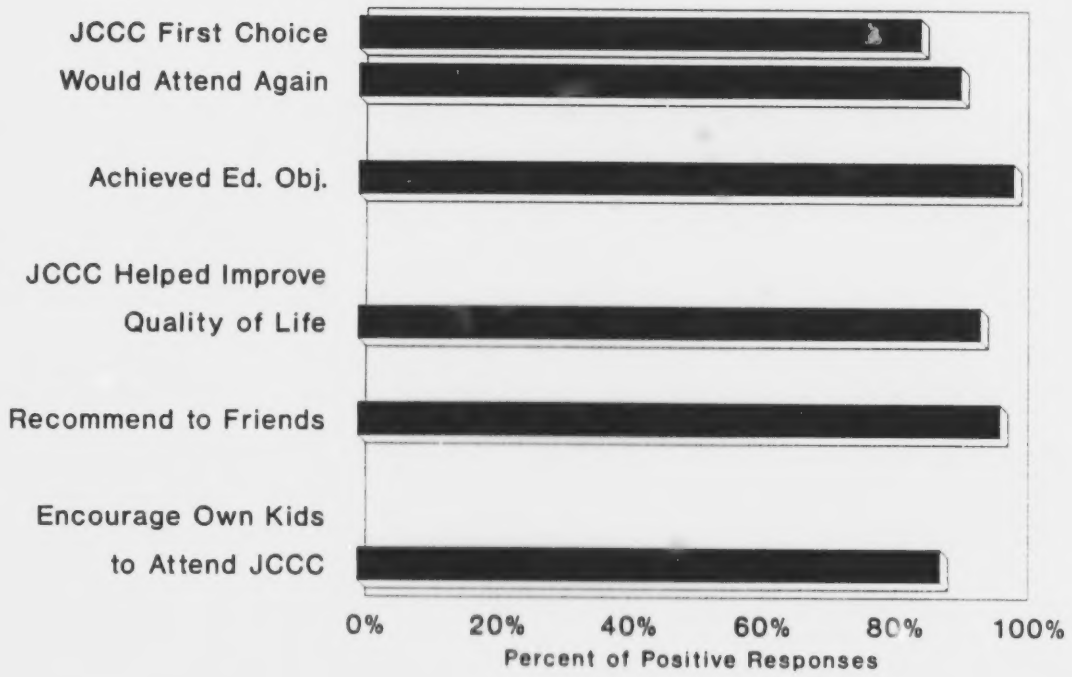
Note. Data collected on 5-point scale. Results reflect "strongly agree" and "agree" responses combined.

How satisfied are the career program completers with their community college experiences?

An important component of the ongoing assessment of institutional effectiveness that the JCCC Office of Institutional Research conducts is contained in former students' responses to this series of questions. As Figure 5 depicts, JCCC was the first choice of colleges to attend for 85% of survey respondents and, if starting now, 91% would attend JCCC again.

Virtually all respondents had achieved their educational objective at the community college. It is also important to note that 97% of respondents would recommend JCCC to friends, and 88% would encourage their own children to attend JCCC. See Tables 12 to 14 in Appendix A for detailed results of findings.

Figure 5
Measures of Satisfaction
With JCCC



What percent of career program completers continue their educational pursuits after leaving the community college?

Completion of an educational program does not necessarily mean the end of educational pursuits. As Figure 6 depicts, one in two respondents had participated in educational endeavors since completing their community college course of study and, of those, 50% had re-enrolled at JCCC (25% of total respondents). The majority indicated their classwork was related to their community college course of study, and 41% had earned a degree or certificate.

One in four respondents were currently participating in educational endeavors. Fully 46% planned to enroll again within the next year, and an additional 20% expressed uncertainty about their future educational plans. Note that only one in three indicated no plans to continue their education within the next year. See Tables 15 and 16 in Appendix A for detailed results of findings.

Figure 6
Educational Endeavors and Plans

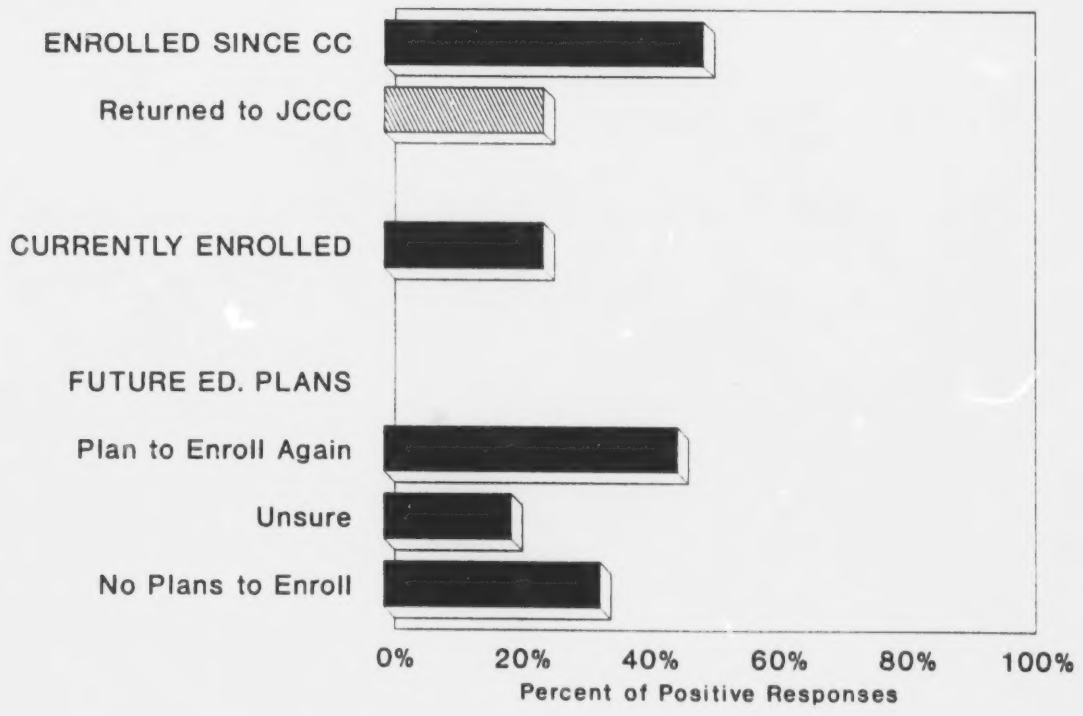


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Table 1

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

	Number of Responses	Percent
Sex		
Male	96	38.7%
Female	152	61.3
Age		
21 to 25	40	16.1%
26 to 30	65	26.2
31 to 35	42	16.9
36 to 40	39	15.7
41 to 50	41	16.5
Over 50	12	4.8
Unknown	9	3.8
Mean = 34.2; Median = 31.7		
Race		
Asian or Pacific	2	0.8%
Black	3	1.2
Hispanic	7	2.8
White	235	94.8
Unknown	1	0.4
Marital Status		
Never married	56	22.6%
Currently married	153	61.7
Previously married	30	12.1
Unknown	9	3.6
Family Income		
Under $ 20,000	26	10.5%
$20,000 - 40,000	91	36.7
40,001 - 60,000	73	29.4
60,001 - 80,000	25	10.1
80,001 - 100,000	13	5.2
Over 100,000	7	2.8
Unknown	13	5.3

Table 2

CURRENT STATUS

	Number of Responses	Employed in Job Related to Training	Employed in Job Unrelated to Training	Pursuing Additional Education	Unemployed; Not Pursuing Education	Not in Labor Force; Not Pursuing Ed.
Accounting	6	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Administration of Justice	5	60.0	40.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Automotive Technology	3	66.7	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Aviation Maintenance Technology	2	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Biomedical Equipment	4	75.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Business Administration	8	75.0	12.5	12.5	0.0	0.0
Chef Apprentice	3	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Commercial Art	14	85.8	7.1	0.0	0.0	7.1
Computer Systems Tech.	7	71.4	14.3	14.3	0.0	0.0
Data Processing	7	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dental Hygiene	12	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Drafting Technology	5	80.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0
Electronics Engr. Tech.	5	80.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Emergency Medical Tech.	15	66.7	26.6	6.7	0.0	0.0
MICT/Paramedic	8	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equine Studies	2	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fashion Merchandising	3	66.7	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fire Science	7	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note. Respondents pursuing additional education who were also employed were tallied in the appropriate employment category only.

Table 2 (Continued)

CURRENT STATUS

	Number of Responses	Employed in Job Related to Training	Employed in Job Unrelated to Training	Pursuing Additional Education	Unemployed; Not Pursuing Education	Not in Labor Force; Not Pursuing Ed.
Health Information Technology	9	77.8	11.1%	11.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Hospitality Management	8	87.5	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
HVAC Technology	6	83.3	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Interior Merchandising	6	50.0	33.3	16.7	0.0	0.0
Interpreter Training	10	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing Technology	4	50.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	25.0
Marketing and Management	8	87.5	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nursing	19	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Office Automation Technology	2	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Office Careers	8	62.5	25.0	0.0	0.0	12.5
Paralegal	39	59.0	23.1	7.7	7.7	2.5
Police Academy	10	80.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Veterinary Technology	3	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4-year FU of '88 comp.: 31 programs	248	79.0%	14.6%	3.2%	1.6%	1.6%
3-year FU of '87 comp.: 35 programs	293	83.2	8.2	1.7	3.1	3.8
3-year FU of '86 comp.: 30 programs	291	82.8	7.2	5.2	1.7	3.1

Note: Respondents pursuing additional education who were also employed were tallied in the appropriate employment category only.

Table 3

USE OF CAREER PROGRAM SKILLS

	Number of Responses	On the Job	Volunteer Work	Not Using Skills	Other/ Unknown
Accounting	6	33.3%	16.7%	50.0%	0.0%
Administration of Justice	5	40.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Automotive Technology	3	66.7	0.0	33.3	0.0
Aviation Maintenance Technology	2	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Biomedical Equipment	4	75.0	0.0	25.0	0.0
Business Administration	8	75.0	0.0	12.5	12.5
Chef Apprentice	3	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Commercial Art	14	78.6	0.0	14.3	7.1
Computer Systems Technology	7	71.4	0.0	14.3	14.3
Data Processing	7	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dental Hygiene	12	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Drafting Technology	5	80.0	0.0	20.0	0.0
Electronics Engr. Technology	5	80.0	0.0	20.0	0.0
Emergency Medical Technology	15	66.7	20.0	13.3	0.0
MICT/Paramedic	8	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equine Studies	2	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fashion Merchandising	3	66.7	0.0	33.3	0.0
Fire Science	7	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Health Information Technology	9	66.7	11.1	22.2	0.0
Hospitality Management	8	87.5	0.0	0.0	12.5
HVAC Technology	6	83.3	0.0	16.7	0.0
Interior Merchandising	6	50.0	16.7	33.3	0.0
Interpreter Training	10	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing Technology	4	50.0	0.0	50.0	0.0
Marketing and Management	8	62.5	0.0	12.5	25.0
Nursing	19	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Office Automation Technology	2	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Office Careers	8	75.0	0.0	25.0	0.0
Paralegal	39	53.8	2.6	41.0	2.6
Police Academy	10	80.0	0.0	20.0	0.0
Veterinary Technology	3	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Totals	248	76.5%	3.2%	17.4%	2.9%

Table 4

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF RESPONDENTS
WORKING IN A RELATED JOB

	Number of Responses	Part-time	Full-time
Accounting	3	0.0%	100.0%
Administration of Justice	3	33.3	66.7
Automotive Technology	2	0.0	100.0
Aviation Maintenance Technology	2	0.0	100.0
Biomedical Equipment	3	33.3	66.7
Business Administration	6	0.0	100.0
Chef Apprentice	3	0.0	100.0
Commercial Art	12	8.3	91.7
Computer Systems Technology	5	0.0	100.0
Data Processing	7	0.0	100.0
Dental Hygiene	12	16.7	83.3
Drafting Technology	4	50.0	50.0
Electronics Engr. Technology	4	25.0	75.0
Emergency Medical Technology	10	20.0	80.0
MICT/Paramedic	8	12.5	87.5
Equine Studies	2	0.0	100.0
Fashion Merchandising	2	50.0	50.0
Fire Science	7	0.0	100.0
Health Information Technology	7	14.3	85.7
Hospitality Management	7	14.3	85.7
HVAC Technology	5	0.0	100.0
Interior Merchandising	3	0.0	100.0
Interpreter Training	10	50.0	50.0
Manufacturing Technology	2	0.0	100.0
Marketing and Management	7	14.3	85.7
Nursing	19	26.3	73.7
Office Automation Technology	2	50.0	50.0
Office Careers	5	0.0	100.0
Paralegal	23	4.3	95.7
Police Academy	8	0.0	100.0
Veterinary Technology	3	0.0	100.0
Totals	196	13.8%	86.2%

Table 5

CURRENT FULL-TIME RELATED JOB
FIRST IN CAREER FIELD

	Number of Responses	Yes	No
Accounting	3	0.0%	100.0%
Administration of Justice	2	50.0	50.0
Automotive Technology	2	100.0	0.0
Aviation Maintenance Technology	2	50.0	50.0
Biomedical Equipment	2	50.0	50.0
Business Administration	6	66.7	33.3
Chef Apprentice	3	33.3	66.7
Commercial Art	11	36.4	63.6
Computer Systems Technology	5	80.0	20.0
Data Processing	7	42.9	57.1
Dental Hygiene	10	30.0	70.0
Drafting Technology	2	50.0	50.0
Electronics Engr. Technology	3	66.7	33.3
Emergency Medical Technology	8	62.5	37.5
MICT/Paramedic	7	42.9	57.1
Equine Studies	2	100.0	0.0
Fashion Merchandising	1	0.0	100.0
Fire Science	7	42.9	57.1
Health Information Technology	6	16.7	83.3
Hospitality Management	6	0.0	100.0
HVAC Technology	5	40.0	60.0
Interior Merchandising	3	33.3	66.7
Interpreter Training	5	0.0	100.0
Manufacturing Technology	2	50.0	50.0
Marketing and Management	6	50.0	50.0
Nursing	14	42.9	57.1
Office Automation Technology	1	100.0	0.0
Office Careers	5	20.0	80.0
Paralegal	22	45.5	54.5
Police Academy	8	50.0	50.0
Veterinary Technology	3	33.3	66.7
Totals	169	42.0%	58.0%

Table 6

EMPLOYED IN CURRENT FULL-TIME
RELATED JOB PRIOR TO ENROLLING IN CAREER PROGRAM

	Number of Responses	Yes	No
Accounting	3	0.0%	100.0%
Administration of Justice	2	50.0	50.0
Automotive Technology	2	50.0	50.0
Aviation Maintenance Technology	2	0.0	100.0
Biomedical Equipment	2	0.0	100.0
Business Administration	6	33.3	66.7
Chef Apprentice	3	33.3	66.7
Commercial Art	11	0.0	100.0
Computer Systems Technology	5	20.0	80.0
Data Processing	7	14.3	85.7
Dental Hygiene	10	0.0	100.0
Drafting Technology	2	0.0	100.0
Electronics Engr. Technology	3	100.0	0.0
Emergency Medical Technology	8	12.5	87.5
MICT/Paramedic	7	71.4	28.6
Equine Studies	2	0.0	100.0
Fashion Merchandising	1	0.0	100.0
Fire Science	7	85.7	14.3
Health Information Technology	6	16.7	83.3
Hospitality Management	6	33.3	66.7
HVAC Technology	5	60.0	40.0
Interior Merchandising	3	0.0	100.0
Interpreter Training	5	20.0	80.0
Manufacturing Technology	2	100.0	0.0
Marketing and Management	6	33.3	66.7
Nursing	14	14.3	85.7
Office Automation Technology	1	0.0	100.0
Office Careers	5	0.0	100.0
Paralegal	22	27.3	72.7
Police Academy	8	50.0	50.0
Veterinary Technology	3	0.0	100.0
Totals	169	26.6%	73.4%

Table 7

EMPLOYMENT PROFILE OF
RESPONDENTS WORKING FULL TIME IN A RELATED JOB

	Number of Responses	Percent
Length of Time on Current Full-Time Related Job		
6 months or less	12	7.1%
7 to 12 months	13	7.7
13 to 24 months	18	10.7
25 to 48 months	51	30.2
Over 48 months	72	42.6
Unknown	3	1.7
Progressed in Career Since College		
Yes	153	90.5%
No	16	9.5
How Progressed*		
Salary increases	127	84.1
Professional recognition	101	66.9
Promotions	92	60.9
Unknown	22	14.6
Hourly Wage of Respondents Employed Full-Time in Related Job		
Under - $ 7.00 per hour	2	1.2%
$7.01 - 8.00	5	3.0
8.01 - 9.00	13	7.7
9.01 - 10.00	16	9.5
10.01 - 11.00	11	6.5
11.01 - 12.00	15	8.9
12.01 - 13.00	20	11.8
13.01 - 14.00	3	1.8
14.01 - 15.00	16	9.5
Over $15.00	52	30.6
Unknown	16	9.5
Mean = $14.00/hour or $29,120/year		
Median = $13.00/hour or $27,040/year		

Note. * Multiple response item; numbers and percentages are not additive.

Table 8

AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE BY SEX AND PROGRAM
OF RESPONDENTS WORKING FULL TIME IN A RELATED JOB

	Overall Average Wage	Males	Females
Accounting	$10.59	n/a	$10.59
Administration of Justice	13.25	$16.00	10.50
Automotive Technology	14.98	14.98	n/a
Aviation Maintenance Technology	18.50	18.50	n/a
Biomedical Equipment	12.75	12.75	n/a
Business Administration	17.67	20.13	12.76
Chef Apprentice	10.10	10.10	n/a
Commercial Art	11.48	10.48	12.73
Computer Systems Technology	13.35	13.56	12.50
Data Processing	16.79	15.07	18.50
Dental Hygiene	17.78	n/a	17.78
Drafting Technology	15.88	15.88	n/a
Electronics Engr. Technology	17.15	17.15	n/a
Emergency Medical Technology	12.20	12.20	n/a
MICT/Paramedic	12.06	11.59	14.90
Equine Studies	8.10	n/a	8.10
Fashion Merchandising	11.00	n/a	11.00
Fire Science	16.30	16.30	n/a
Health Information Technology	12.19	n/a	12.19
Hospitality Management	13.14	10.77	15.50
HVAC Technology	15.20	15.20	n/a
Interior Merchandising	13.14	n/a	13.14
Interpreter Training	10.02	12.00	9.52
Manufacturing Technology	25.00	25.00	n/a
Marketing and Management	11.36	10.00	11.63
Nursing	18.06	n/a	18.06
Office Automation Technology	16.85	n/a	16.85
Office Careers	10.64	n/a	10.64
Paralegal	13.21	17.33	12.11
Police Academy	13.33	13.42	12.76
Veterinary Technology	9.50	7.90	10.31
Overall Average Wages	$14.00	$14.20	$13.84

Table 9

PERCEPTIONS OF CURRENT
FULL-TIME RELATED JOB

	Number of Responses	Percent
Working Conditions		
Excellent/good	143	84.6%
Average	16	9.5
Fair/poor	8	4.7
Unknown	2	1.2
Level of Responsibility		
Excellent/good	142	84.0%
Average	20	11.8
Fair/poor	4	2.4
Unknown	3	1.8
Advancement Potential		
Excellent/good	80	47.3%
Average	35	20.7
Fair/poor	49	29.0
Unknown	5	3.0
Salary		
Excellent/good	107	63.3%
Average	34	20.1
Fair/poor	27	16.0
Unknown	1	0.6
Job in General		
Excellent/good	142	84.0%
Average	17	10.1
Fair/poor	8	4.7
Unknown	2	1.2

Table 10

JOB SATISFACTION OF RESPONDENTS
EMPLOYED FULL TIME IN A RELATED JOB

	Number of Responses	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied
Accounting	3	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Administration of Justice	2	100.0	0.0	0.0
Automotive Technology	2	100.0	0.0	0.0
Aviation Maintenance Technology	2	50.0	0.0	50.0
Biomedical Equipment	2	100.0	0.0	0.0
Business Administration	6	100.0	0.0	0.0
Chef Apprentice	3	66.7	0.0	33.3
Commercial Art	11	54.5	9.1	36.4
Computer Systems Technology	5	80.0	20.0	0.0
Data Processing	7	100.0	0.0	0.0
Dental Hygiene	10	70.0	0.0	30.0
Drafting Technology	2	100.0	0.0	0.0
Electronics Engr. Technology	3	100.0	0.0	0.0
Emergency Medical Technology	8	100.0	0.0	0.0
MICT/Paramedic	7	85.7	0.0	14.3
Equine Studies	2	100.0	0.0	0.0
Fashion Merchandising	1	100.0	0.0	0.0
Fire Science	7	100.0	0.0	0.0
Health Information Technology	6	83.3	16.7	0.0
Hospitality Management	6	50.0	33.3	16.7
HVAC Technology	5	100.0	0.0	0.0
Interior Merchandising	3	66.7	0.0	33.3
Interpreter Training	5	80.0	0.0	20.0
Manufacturing Technology	2	50.0	0.0	50.0
Marketing and Management	5	40.0	40.0	20.0
Nursing	14	100.0	0.0	0.0
Office Automation Technology	1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Office Careers	5	60.0	20.0	20.0
Paralegal	22	77.3	9.1	13.6
Police Academy	8	87.5	12.5	0.0
Veterinary Technology	3	66.7	33.3	0.0
Totals	168	81.0%	7.1%	11.9%

Note: Data were collected utilizing a 5-point scale ranging from very satisfied to very dissatisfied. Thus, the "satisfied" column includes "very satisfied" and "satisfied" responses combined, and the "dissatisfied" column includes "dissatisfied" and "very dissatisfied" responses combined.

Table 11

PERCEPTIONS OF COMMUNITY
COLLEGE EXPERIENCES

	Number of Responses	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Enhanced self-confidence	244	79.9%	16.4%	3.7%
Improved decision-making skills	244	70.9	24.6	4.5
Improved time management skills	245	70.6	23.7	5.7
Improved oral communication skills	244	70.1	25.4	4.5
Expanded tolerance for people and ideas	245	69.8	23.7	6.5
Clarified personal values and goals	241	69.3	21.6	9.1
Broadened knowledge of arts and sciences	245	64.9	28.6	6.5
Improved interpersonal skills	243	62.1	32.1	5.8
Improved written communication skills	243	60.9	26.3	12.8

Note: Data were collected utilizing a 5-point scale ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree. Thus, the "agree" column includes "strongly agree" and "agree" responses combined, and the "disagree" column includes "disagree" and "strongly disagree" responses combined.

Table 12

COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE

	Number of Responses	Percent
Original Educational Objective		
Prepare to enter job market	117	47.2%
Improve skills for present job	53	21.4
Prepare to change careers	29	11.7
Transfer to another college/university	29	11.7
Explore courses to decide on career	11	4.4
Study topics of interest/self-improvement	6	2.4
Other/unknown	3	1.2
Changed Educational Objective		
Yes	37	14.9%
No	211	85.1
Achieved Educational Objective		
Yes, completely	216	87.1%
Yes, partially	29	11.7
No	3	1.2
Community College Helped Achieve Objective		
Yes	233	95.1%
Unsure	8	3.3
No	2	0.8
Unknown	2	0.8
Reasons Objective Not Achieved		
Financial difficulties	1	33.3%
Not working in chosen field	2	66.7

Table 13

COMMUNITY COLLEGE EXPERIENCES

	Number of Responses	Percent
JCCC First Choice to Attend		
Yes	210	84.7%
No	38	15.3
Method of Career Program Completion		
Earned associate's degree	173	69.8%
Earned vocational certificate	40	16.1
Left with marketable skills	35	14.1
Number of Semesters in Career Program		
1 or 2	41	16.5%
3 or 4	99	39.9
5 or 6	56	22.6
7 or 8	23	9.3
9 or more	18	7.3
Unknown	11	4.4
Mean = 4.6; Median = 4.2		
Credit Hours Completed at the Community College		
15 or less	19	7.7%
16 to 30	18	7.3
31 to 45	20	8.1
46 to 60	35	14.1
Over 60	99	39.9
Unknown	57	22.9
Mean = 57.3; Median = 62.8		
Used JCCC Career Center		
Yes	100	40.3%
No	146	58.9
Unknown	2	0.8
Community College Grades		
Mostly A	88	35.5%
Mostly A and B	93	37.5
Mostly B	23	9.3
Mostly B and C	42	16.9
Mostly C	1	0.4
Unknown	1	0.4

Table 14

OVERALL SATISFACTION WITH
THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

	Number of Responses	Percent
Improved Quality of Life		
Definitely	154	62.1%
Probably	78	31.5
Uncertain	10	4.0
Probably not	2	0.8
Definitely not	3	1.2
Unknown	1	0.4
If Starting Now, Would Attend the Community College Again		
Definitely	185	74.7%
Probably	40	16.1
Uncertain	11	4.4
Probably not	8	3.2
Definitely not	3	1.2
Unknown	1	0.4
Would Recommend JCCC to Friends		
Yes	241	97.2%
Unsure	5	2.0
No	2	0.8
Would Encourage Own Children to Attend JCCC		
Yes	219	88.3%
Unsure	18	7.3
No	8	3.2
Unknown	3	1.2

Table 15

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES
SINCE LEAVING THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

	Number of Responses	Percent
Participated in Educational Endeavors		
Yes	123	49.6%
No	125	50.4
Where		
JCCC	61	49.6%
The University of Kansas	10	8.1
Mid-America Nazarene College	6	4.9
Avila College	5	4.1
Ottawa University	5	4.1
Baker University	3	2.4
Emporia State University	3	2.4
Longview Community College	3	2.4
Kansas State University	2	1.6
Park College	2	1.6
Other Kansas/Missouri colleges (one response each)	7	5.7
Out-of-area colleges	4	3.3
Noncollege continuing education offerings	7	5.7
Unknown	5	4.1
Classes Related to Career Program		
Yes	67	54.5%
No	54	43.9
Unknown	2	1.6
Earned Degree or Certificate		
Yes	50	40.7%
No	73	59.3
Degree/Certificate Earned		
Vocational certificate	13	26.0%
Associate's degree	6	12.0
Bachelor's degree	26	52.0
Other	5	10.0

Table 16

CURRENT EDUCATIONAL PROFILE

	Number of Responses	Percent
Currently Participating in Educational Endeavors		
Yes	63	25.4%
No	185	74.6
Where		
JCCC	18	28.6%
The University of Kansas	5	7.9
Ottawa University	5	7.9
Kansas State University	3	4.8
Mid-America Nazarene College	3	4.8
Avila College	2	3.2
Baker University	2	3.2
Emporia State University	2	3.2
Other Kansas/Missouri colleges (one response each)	9	14.3
Out-of-area colleges	4	6.3
Noncollege continuing education offerings	7	11.0
Unknown	3	4.8
Plan to Enroll Within Next Year		
Yes	113	45.6%
Unsure	48	19.5
No	85	34.3
Unknown	2	0.6
Where		
JCCC	50	44.2%
The University of Kansas	10	8.8
Baker University	5	4.4
Mid-America Nazarene College	3	2.7
Ottawa University	3	2.7
Emporia State University	2	1.8
Kansas City Kansas Community College	2	1.8
Kansas State University	2	1.8
Rockhurst College	2	1.8
Multiple locations cited	2	1.8
Other Kansas/Missouri colleges (one response each)	6	5.3
Out-of-state colleges	7	6.2
Noncollege continuing education offerings	12	10.5
Unknown	7	6.2

Table 17

CURRENT PRIMARY EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE

	Number of Responses	Percent
Improve skills for present job	59	23.8%
No plans for more education	56	22.6
Study topics of interest/self-improvement	49	19.8
Transfer to another college/university	28	11.3
Prepare for graduate school	26	10.5
Prepare to change careers	11	4.4
Prepare to enter job market	7	2.8
Explore courses to decide on career	7	2.8
Remedy or review basic skills	3	1.2
Unknown	2	0.8

Johnson County Community College
Office of Institutional Research
12345 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS 66210-1299

JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
LONG TERM FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF
CAREER PROGRAM COMPLETERS

[AFFIX LABEL HERE]

Dear Former Student: Please take a few minutes to carefully respond to each of the following questions as honestly and completely as possible, then return the completed survey to us in the envelope provided. All responses will be kept strictly confidential and reported as group data only. Thank you for your help!

_____NOTE: If you did not complete a career program by either graduating, earning a certificate, or leaving with marketable skills during summer of 1987, fall of 1987, or spring of 1988, please check here and return the uncompleted survey to us. Thank you.

1. Which career program did you complete?_____

2. What was your status when you left that career program? (Check only one)

   _____1. Earned an associate's degree
   _____2. Earned a vocational certificate
   _____3. Left with enough training to work in this career field

3. Was JCCC your first choice when you decided to attend college to pursue this major?

   _____1. Yes
   _____2. No (If no, which college was your first choice?_____)

4. How many semesters were you enrolled in that program at the community college?_____

5. How many total credit hours have you completed at the community college?_____

6. Which of the following best describes your primary educational objective when you first enrolled at the community college? (Check only one)

   _____1. Transfer to another college or university
   _____2. Prepare to enter the job market
   _____3. Improve skills for your present job
   _____4. Explore courses to decide on a new career
   _____5. Remedy or review basic skills
   _____6. Study topics of interest or for self-improvement
   _____7. Prepare to change careers
   _____8. Other (please specify)

7. Did you change this educational objective (not your major) while a student at the community college?

   _____1. Yes, changed objective to_____
   _____2. No

8. Did you achieve your community college educational objective?

   _____1. Yes, completely
   _____2. Yes, partially
   _____3. No (If no, briefly explain reason)

9. If yes, did the community college help you to achieve this educational objective?

   _____1. Yes
   _____2. Unsure
   _____3. No (Please explain)

10. Regardless of the financial benefits, do you feel your community college experiences have improved the quality of your life?

    _____1. Definitely yes
    _____2. Probably yes
    _____3. Uncertain
    _____4. Probably no
    _____5. Definitely no

11. If you could go back, knowing what you know now, would you still attend the community college?

    _____1. Definitely yes
    _____2. Probably yes
    _____3. Uncertain
    _____4. Probably no
    _____5. Definitely no

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12. Would you recommend attending JCCC to your friends and acquaintances?

_____1. Yes
_____2. Unsure
_____3. No

13. Would you encourage your own children to attend JCCC?

_____1. Yes
_____2. Unsure
_____3. No

---

14. Below are several goals that "typical" students have for their college experiences. Please indicate how much you agree that your experiences at the community college helped you to accomplish each of these goals.

		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
A.	Broadened my knowledge of the arts and sciences	1	2	3	4	5
B.	Improved my ability to communicate orally	1	2	3	4	5
C.	Improved my ability to communicate in writing	1	2	3	4	5
D.	Improved my ability to make good decisions	1	2	3	4	5
E.	Improved my ability to make constructive use of time	1	2	3	4	5
F.	Enhanced my ability to get along with others	1	2	3	4	5
G.	Expanded my tolerance for people and ideas	1	2	3	4	5
H.	Assisted me in clarifying the values and goals of my life	1	2	3	4	5
I.	Enhanced my self-confidence	1	2	3	4	5

---

15. If you could name one faculty or staff member who had the greatest impact on you at the community college, who would it be?

Why did you select this person?

16. How are you currently using the skills you developed through your career program?

_____1. In my job
_____2. Doing volunteer work
_____3. Not using my skills (please explain)
_____4. Other (please specify)

17. Have you ever used the JCCC Career Center?

_____1. Yes
_____2. No (If no, why not?)

18. Which of the following best describes your current employment situation?

_____1. Full-time military
_____2. Employed part-time (under 30 hours per week)
_____3. Employed full-time (30+ hours per week)
_____4. Unemployed; actively looking for work
_____5. Not in labor force (not employed and not actively looking for a job)

IF UNEMPLOYED OR OUT OF THE LABOR FORCE--SKIP TO QUESTION 27

19. How long have you had your present job?_____

20. What is your current job title?_____

21. What is your average hourly wage?_____

22. How would you describe your job in terms of the skills you developed in your career program?

_____1. Directly related to skills developed in your career program
_____2. Somewhat related to skills developed in your career program
_____3. Not at all related to skills developed in your career program

23. How satisfied are you with your present job?

_____1. Very dissatisfied
_____2. Somewhat dissatisfied
_____3. Neutral
_____4. Somewhat satisfied
_____5. Very satisfied

---

24. Please rate each of the following characteristics of your current job by circling the number most closely reflecting your opinion.

	Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent	Don't Know
A. Working conditions	1	2	3	4	5	9
B. Amount of responsibility	1	2	3	4	5	9
C. Advancement potential	1	2	3	4	5	9
D. Salary	1	2	3	4	5	9
E. Job in general	1	2	3	4	5	9

---

25. Is your current job the first one you have had in this career field?

_____1. Yes
_____2. No

26. Were you employed in this job before enrolling in your career program?

_____1. Yes
_____2. No

27. Do you feel you've progressed in your career field since completing your career program?

_____1. No
_____2. Yes (If yes, in what ways have you progressed? Check all that apply)

_____1. Salary increase(s)
_____2. Promotion(s)
_____3. Professional recognition
_____4. Other (please specify)

28. Have you enrolled in any classes since completing your career program four years ago?

_____1. Yes (Where?)_____
_____2. No (If no, skip to question 30)

29. Were the classes related to the career program you completed?

_____1. Yes
_____2. No

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30. Have you earned any degrees or certificates since completing your career program?

_____1. No
_____2. Yes (If yes, what degree or certificate was earned?)

_____1. Vocational certificate in _____
_____2. Associate's degree
_____3. Bachelor's degree
_____4. Other (please specify)

31. Are you currently enrolled in any classes or participating in any training?

_____1. Yes (Where?)_____
_____2. No

32. Do you plan to enroll in any classes or training within the next year?

_____1. Yes (Where?)_____
_____2. Unsure
_____3. No

33. What is your current primary educational objective? (Check only one)

_____1. Transfer to another college or university
_____2. Prepare for graduate school
_____3. Prepare to enter the job market
_____4. Improve skills for your present job
_____5. Explore courses to decide on a new career
_____6. Remedy or review basic skills
_____ 7. Study topics of interest or for self-improvement
_____ 8. Prepare to change careers
_____ 9. No plans for more education
_____10. Other (please specify)

34. Please describe your community college grades (check only one):

_____1. Mostly A's
_____2. Mostly A's and B's
_____3. Mostly B's
_____4. Mostly B's and C's
_____5. Mostly C's
_____6. Mostly C's and D's
_____7. Mostly D's
_____8. Mostly F's

35. What is your race/ethnic category?

_____1. American Indian/Alaskan
_____2. Hispanic
_____3. Asian/Pacific Islander
_____4. African American
_____5. White/Other

36. What is your marital status?

_____1. Single/never married
_____2. Married now
_____3. Previously married (widowed, separated or divorced)

37. What is your sex?

_____1. Male
_____2. Female

38. What is your age?_____

39. Which of the following best describes your annual family income?

_____1. Under $20,000
_____2. $20,000 to $40,000
_____3. $40,001 to $60,000
_____4. $60,001 to $80,000
_____5. $80,001 to $100,000
_____6. Over $100,000

Any comments or suggestions about the community college or the career program you completed which would help us in meeting the needs of future students would be appreciated. Thank you for your help.

July 6, 1992

Dear Career Program Completer:

As part of Johnson County Community College's continuing commitment to improving its programs and services, we are surveying former students who completed a JCCC career program (or a JCCC co-op program through Penn Valley or Maple Woods Community College) about four years ago. We are particularly interested in your experiences since leaving the program and your educational plans for the future.

Please take a few minutes to answer each of the questions on the enclosed survey as completely and accurately as possible and return the completed survey to us by July 24. A postage-paid business reply envelope is enclosed for your convenience in returning the completed survey to us. Naturally all responses will be kept strictly confidential and reported as group data only.

If you did not complete a career program about four years ago, simply check where indicated and return the uncompleted survey to us so our records can be updated.

Thank you for your time and your contribution to this important project. Good luck in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Dan Radakovich
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Enclosures

July 27, 1992

Dear Career Program Completer:

A few weeks ago we sent you a survey requesting information about how you are using the skills you developed in your JCCC career program (or through Penn Valley or Maple Woods if you were enrolled in a JCCC co-op program) and your future educational plans. If you have already completed the survey, thank you very much. Your responses will help us in planning to meet the needs of future community college students like yourself.

In the event you have not as yet completed the survey and returned it to us, we are enclosing a second copy. Please take a few minutes to answer each of the questions as completely and accurately as possible. A postage-paid business reply envelope has been provided for your convenience in returning the completed survey to us by August 14. Naturally all responses will be kept strictly confidential and reported as group data only.

Thank you for your help in updating our records on career program completers, and for any comments or suggestions you may have.

Sincerely,

Dan Radakovich
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Enclosures